

Message Text

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44

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 AID-05 PC-05 COME-00 EB-07 LAB-04 SIL-01

DOT-00 FMC-02 SAL-01 CG-00 DLOS-06 OES-06 /129 W

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R 091243Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8261

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

USEC BRUSSELS 459

USMISSION GENEVA

AMCONSUL BOMBAY

AMCONSUL CALCUTTA

AMCONSUL MADRAS

UNCLAS NEW DELHI 13305

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB,IN

SUBJECT: MARITIME OFFICERS UNION JOINS PROTEST AGAINST ITF

REF: NEW DELHI 12902

1. ANOTHER AFFILIATE OF THE INTERNATIONAL TRANSPORT WORKERS' FEDERATION (ITF), THE MARITIME UNION OF INDIA, HAS PROTESTED THE AUGUST 13 CIRCULAR LETTER OF THE ITF (REFTEL). IN A TELEGRAM TO THE ITF, MANIBEN KARA, THE PRESIDENT OF THE ORGANIZATION OF MERCHANT MARINE OFFICERS, AND K.P. KOLAH, THE GENERAL SECRETARY, EXPRESSED THEIR RESENTMENT OF THE "INSINUATIONS AGAINST OUR GOVERNMENT" AND DEMANDED WITHDRAWAL OF THE CIRCULAR "TO AVOID WORSENING OF RELATIONS BETWEEN ITF AND ITS INDIAN AFFILIATES." MANIBEN KARA IS PRINCIPALLY KNOWN AS A LEADER OF THE ALL INDIA RAILWAYMEN'S FEDERATION

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WHICH HAS NOT PROTESTED THE ITF LETTER.

2. V.B. KARNIK, INDIAN LABOR HISTORIAN AND CLOSE ASSOCIATE OF MANIBEN KRA, WRITING IN THE SEPTEMBER 6 EDITION OF THE "ECONOMIC TIMES," EXPLAINED THE PROBLEM WHICH THE ITF HAS CAUSED ITS INDIAN AFFILIATES: THE PROTESTS AGAINST THE ITF CIRCULAR "SHOULD PROVIDE A LESSON TO ALL INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS. THEY CANNOT HELP THEIR BROTHER WORKERS IN OTHER LANDS BY ILL-TEMPERED ABUSE OF THE GOVERNMENTS OF THEIR COUNTRIES. THEY MUST IN THE FIRST INSTANCE COLLECT CORRECT INFORMATION AND NEXT EXPRESS THEIR REACTIONS IN SOBER AND DIGNIFIED LANGUAGE. INDIAN UNIONS HAVE TO FACE A DIFFICULT TIME. EXAGGERATED AND DISTORTED PICTURE OF THE CONDITIONS IN THE COUNTRY DOES NOT HELP THEM IN DISCHARGING THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES." SAXBE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TRANSPORTATION, INTERNATIONAL LABOR ORGANIZATIONS, RELATIONS WITH INTERNATIONAL ORGS, MERCHANT SEAMEN
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 SEP 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976NEWDE13305
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760340-1201
From: NEW DELHI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760977/aaaacokd.tel
Line Count: 76
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 NEW DELHI 12902
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: cahillha
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24 FEB 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <24 FEB 2004 by MaustMC>; APPROVED <14 JAN 2005 by cahillha>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MARITIME OFFICERS UNION JOINS PROTEST AGAINST ITF
TAGS: ELAB, IN
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006